

β^2 11. (Amended) The polypeptide fragment as defined by Claim 10, obtained via proteolysis of said cathepsin L type cysteine protease.

β^3 13. (Twice Amended) A cosmetic/pharmaceutical composition comprising an isolated, substantially pure cathepsin L type cysteine protease present in healthy stratum corneum having an apparent molecular weight ranging from 15 to 32 kilodaltons, or polypeptide fragment thereof having cathepsin L type cysteine protease activity; formulated into physiologically acceptable medium therefor.

14. (Twice Amended) The cosmetic/pharmaceutical composition as defined by Claim 13, comprising from about 0.00001% to 50% by weight of said cathepsin L type cysteine protease or polypeptide fragment thereof.

β^4 15. (Amended) The cosmetic/pharmaceutical composition as defined by Claim 14, comprising from about 0.001% to 10% by weight of said cathepsin L type cysteine protease or polypeptide fragment thereof.

16. (Amended) The cosmetic/pharmaceutical composition as defined by Claim 13, further comprising at least one protease activity enhancer.

17. (Amended) The cosmetic/pharmaceutical composition as defined by Claim 16, said at least one protease activity enhancer comprising glycerol, urea or derivative thereof, transglutaminase, EDTA, reducing agent, or combination thereof.

18. (Amended) The cosmetic/pharmaceutical composition as defined by Claim 16, comprising from about 0.00001 % to 15 % by weight of said at least one protease activity enhancer.

B4
cont
19. (Amended) The cosmetic/pharmaceutical composition as defined by Claim 18, comprising from about 0.0001 % to 10 % by weight of said at least one protease activity enhancer.

B5
27. (Amended) A monoclonal antibody or antisera to a cathepsin L type cysteine protease present in healthy stratum corneum having an apparent molecular weight ranging from 15 to 32 kilodaltons, or a polypeptide fragment thereof having cathepsin L type cysteine protease activity;

wherein the cysteine protease polypeptide is a monoclonal antibody or antisera prepared/purified from the cysteine protease polypeptide, or polypeptide fragment thereof].

Please add the following new claims.

B6
32. (New) The isolated, substantially pure polypeptide fragment of Claim 10, wherein the healthy stratum corneum is mammalian stratum corneum.

33. (New) The isolated substantially pure polypeptide fragment of Claim 32,
wherein the mammalian stratum corneum is human stratum corneum.

34. (New) The composition of Claim 13, wherein the healthy stratum corneum
is mammalian stratum corneum.

35. (New) The composition of Claim 34, wherein the mammalian stratum
corneum is human stratum corneum.

36